Customer Number 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 2734.442-02

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Steven L. EDWARDS

Serial No.: 09/987,248

Filed: November 14, 2001

METHOD FOR MAXIMIZING For:

WATER REMOVAL IN A

PRESS NIP

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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TC 1700

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

In response to the Office Action dated January 8, 2002, please amend the

application as follows:

254,00 EP 40,00 EP 20,00 EP

Group Art Unit: 1731

Examiner: J. Fortuna

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please amend Figures 1, 4, and 5 to include the designation: "prior art." Marked up copies of the drawings in red have been provided. The applicants respectfully request the Examiner's acceptance of the proposed drawing revisions.

FINNEGAN **HENDERSON** FARABOW GARRETT& DUNNER LL

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 38-42, without prejudice, and add the following new claims:

--52. An apparatus for forming an absorbent paper sheet product comprising: